



November 17, 1998

Derek Evans  
Business Manager  
Sheet Metal Workers' International Association  
Production Local 540  
1370 Midway Blvd., Unit 39  
Mississauga, Ontario L5T 2G8

Dear Brother Evans:

**Re: Jamaican Canadian Association Community Centre Project**

I am writing as a former business manager of the International Garment Workers Union, and as president of the Jamaican Canadian Association, the largest and oldest of the community organizations serving the needs of the black and Caribbean community here in the Greater Toronto area.

The JCA recently purchased a building with 24,000 square feet of open warehouse space that requires a considerable amount of renovation to make it into a community centre which will feature, among other things, a computer training centre, academic upgrading classrooms and a gymnasium for our young people.

The total renovation costs have been projected at \$886,000. To date, through a variety of fundraising activities, we have raised close to \$250,000. We have approached a number of corporations - including the banks and they have given an accumulated total of \$70,000. The Metro Labour Council has endorsed our campaign. They have launched a "Beat the Banks" campaign with a goal of raising more than the \$70,000 that the banks have pledged.

Not only do we share common membership but we also share the same goal of social justice for all. The labour movement has been in the forefront of the struggles to help those that are less fortunate, and I am sure that you will agree with me that this project is worthy of strong financial support from the labour movement.

Any financial assistance from the Sheet Metal Workers', Local 540 will not only be greatly appreciated, but a permanent form of recognition will be made somewhere in the new centre to acknowledge your contribution. Enclosed is an information brochure. Best personal regards,

Yours in solidarity,  
**Jamaican Canadian Association**

Herman Stewart  
President

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